

## Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 HA-05 XMB-02 OPIC-03  
SNM-05 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01 ITC-01 SP-02 AGRE-00  
AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00  
OIC-02 SIL-01 STR-07 TRSE-00 CEA-01 SS-15 SSO-00  
INRE-00 NSCE-00 ICAE-00 /104 R

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TO USMISSION GENEVA IMMEDIATE

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PASS DAS HORMATS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN, ETRD

SUBJECT: SEPTEMBER 1-2 INFORMAL COMMON FUND MEETING -  
DISCUSSIONS WITH ASEAN PART

1. THE FOLLOWING SUMMARIZES ASEAN REACTIONS TO AUGUST 3-4  
US-ASEAN MINISTERIAL AS BACKGROUND FOR DAS HORMATS SIDE  
TALKS WITH ASEAN REPS ATTENDING SEPTEMBER 1-2 INFORMAL  
COMMON FUND DISCUSSIONS.

2. CONTINUED REPORTING CONFIRMS THAT THE ASEAN COUNTRIES  
ARE HIGHLY PLEASED WITH THE RESULTS OF THE US-ASEAN MINIS-  
TERIAL. THE DEGREE OF SATISFACTION VARIES SOMEWHAT DEPEND-  
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ING ON THE EXPECTATIONS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE RESPECTIVE  
COUNTRIES, BUT EACH HAS JUDGED THE MEETING A SUCCESS BY ITS  
OWN STANDARDS. PHILIPPINE FOREIGN MINISTER ROMULO HAS  
TERMED THE MEETING AN "UNQUALIFIED SUCCESS". THE SINGA-  
POREANS, WHOSE PRIMARY OBJECTIVE WAS TO OBTAIN A REASSERT-  
MENT OF US SUPPORT FOR THE REGION, CONSIDER THEIR OBJECTIVES  
FULLY MET. THE INDONESIANS AND THAIS ARE BOTH VERY

PLEASED. THE MALAYSIANS REACTION HAS BEEN MORE SUBDUED, BUT STILL VERY POSITIVE.

3. THE WARMTH OF THE RECEPTION, THE OBVIOUS EFFORT THAT WENT INTO THE MEETING, THE ACCESS TO A WIDE RANGE OF TOP-LEVEL LEADERS IN THE ADMINISTRATION, CONGRESS AND THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND THE AMPLE OPPORTUNITY FOR MEANINGFUL EXCHANGES WERE SEEN AS WELCOME INDICATIONS OF US INTEREST IN AND CONCERN FOR ASEAN'S ASPIRATIONS. THE PERSONAL RAPPORT ESTABLISHED WAS VIEWED AS OPENING IMPORTANT NEW CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION. THE EXPOSURE TO CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS HAS BEEN FREQUENTLY CITED AS SINGULARLY VALUABLE. WHILE DISMAYED IN SOME INSTANCES AT CONGRESSIONAL COOLNESS TOWARDS MEASURES FAVORED BY ASEAN, THE ASEAN DELEGATES GAINED A HEIGHTENED APPRECIATION OF CONGRESSIONAL ATTITUDES AND THE ROLE OF CONGRESS IN US POLICY FORMATION. ASEAN PLANS TO GIVE PRIORITY TO INFORMING CONGRESS OF ITS VIEWS. THE ONLY SIGNIFICANT DISAPPOINTMENT WAS THE PAUCITY OF US MEDIA COVERAGE.

4. ALL TOP ASEAN PARTICIPANTS CONSIDERED THE US COMMITMENT TO PROCEED CONSTRUCTIVELY TOWARD A CF AGREEMENT TO BE ONE OF THE MAJOR ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE MEETING. THERE WAS ALSO WIDESPREAD AGREEMENT THAT THE DETAILED CF DISCUSSIONS WITH UNDER SECRETARY COOPER WERE VERY USEFUL. MALAYSIAN FOREIGN MINISTER RITHAUDDEEN NOTED THAT BOTH

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THE PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY PERSONALLY ASSERTED THE US DESIRE TO SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDE AN AGREEMENT. RITHAUDDEEN NOTED, HOWEVER, THAT CONGRESS HAD MISCONCEPTIONS ABOUT THE CF, FOR EXAMPLE, SOME MEMBERS THOUGHT IT WOULD BE AN OPEC-LIKE CARTEL. THE GOM WANTS TO TAKE A MODERATE ROLE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. PHILIPPINE OFFICIALS HOPED THAT THE US WOULD HELP BRING ALONG OTHER GROUP B COUNTRIES WHICH WERE "DRAGGING THEIR FEET". INDONESIA TRADE MINISTER PRAWIRO SUGGESTED THAT ASEAN AND THE US SHOULD WORK TOGETHER TO FIND A COMPROMISE BEFORE THE NEXT UNCTAD NEGOTIATION SESSION. THE GOI IS CONSIDERING SENDING AMBASSADOR ALATAS TO THE SEPT. 1 GENEVA MEETING. ASEAN OFFICIALS, RECOGNIZED, HOWEVER, THAT CONSIDERABLE TIME WOULD BE NEEDED TO COMPLETE THE NEGOTIATION.

5. SINGAPORE OFFICIALS CONTINUED THAT MALAYSIA AND INDONESIA, THE MOST ADAMANT ASEAN SUPPORTER OF THE CF, MUST AVOID THE PITFALL OF FULLY SUPPORTING THE G-77 VERSION OF THE CF. THEY THOUGHT ASEAN WOULD NOT BENEFIT FROM A SECOND WINDOW AND WOULD ONLY END UP PAYING FOR PROJECTS IN OTHER LDCS.

6. PM FRASER IN A LETTER TO OUR EMBASSY IN CANBERRA SAID THE GOA WAS PLEASED WITH THE MEETING'S POSITIVE REFERENCE TO THE CF. FRASER WELCOMED THE US RESTATEMENT OF ITS POLITICAL COMMITMENT TO THE CF AND HOPED THIS WOULD PAVE THE WAY FOR MOVEMENT ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES.

7. IN ADDITION TO THE CF STATEMENTS, ASEAN COMMENTS HAVE APPLAUDED THE REFUGEE DISCUSSIONS, THE PLANNED EX-IM AND OPIC VISITS, AND THE US WILLINGNESS TO EXPAND COOPERATION TO INCLUDE ENERGY, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, NARCOTICS CONTROL, AND EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL EXCHANGES AS OTHER IMPORTANT SUBSTANTIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS. VANCE

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